

## CLAIMS

1. The use of a peptide conjugated to a protein that acts as a immunogen for the production of antibodies able to specifically recognize any of the predominant variants of the peptide beta amyloid A $\beta$ 40 and A $\beta$ 42 in the preparation of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of a disease characterized by the accumulation of amyloid deposits in the brain of a patient  
5
2. Use according to the previous claim, characterized in that the disease is Alzheimer's disease  
10
3. Use of according to the previous claim 1, characterized in that the protein is keyhole limpet protein (KLH).
4. Use according to any of the previous claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the peptide is selected from a group that comprises:  
15
  - the peptide of SEQ ID No 1, the peptide of SEQ ID No 2, the peptide of SEQ ID No 3, the peptide of SEQ ID No 4;
  - the peptides resulting from shortening by elimination of the residues of amino acids of the N-terminal and/or C-terminal ends of SEQ ID No 1, SEQ ID No 2, SEQ ID No 3 or SEQ ID No 4;
  - and the peptides resulting from lengthening by addition of the amino acid resides appropriate for conjugating the protein to any of the peptides of SEQ ID No 1, SEQ ID No 2, SEQ ID No 3 or SEQ ID No 4.
5. Use according to the previous claim 4, characterized in that the peptide is selected from the group made up of:  
20
  - the peptide of SEQ ID No 1;
  - the peptides resulting from shortening by elimination of the residues of amino acids of the N-terminal and/or C-terminal ends of SEQ ID No 1;
  - and the peptides resulting from lengthening by addition of the amino acid resides necessary for protein conjugation.
6. Use according to the previous claim 4, characterized in that the peptide is selected from the group made up of:  
25
  - the peptide of SEQ ID No 2;

- the peptides resulting from shortening by elimination of the residues of amino acids of the N-terminal and/or C-terminal ends of SEQ ID No 2;
  - and the peptides resulting from lengthening by addition of the amino acid residues necessary for protein conjugation.
- 5           7. Use according to the previous claim 4, characterized in that the peptide is selected from the group made up of:
- the peptide of SEQ ID No 3;
  - the peptides resulting from shortening by elimination of the residues of amino acids of the N-terminal and/or C-terminal ends of SEQ ID No 3;
  - and the peptides resulting from lengthening by addition of the amino acid residues necessary for protein conjugation.
- 10          8. Use according to the previous claim 4, characterized in that the peptide is selected from the group made up of:
- the peptide of SEQ ID No 4;
  - the peptides resulting from shortening by elimination of the residues of amino acids of the N-terminal and/or C-terminal ends of SEQ ID No 4;
  - and the peptides resulting from lengthening by addition of the amino acid residues necessary for protein conjugation.
- 15          9. Use of an antibody or an active fragment or derivative of an antibody that specifically recognizes any of the predominant variants of the beta amyloid peptide, A $\beta$ 40 and A $\beta$ 42, in the preparation of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of a disease characterized by the accumulation of amyloid deposits in the brain of a patient.
- 20          25       10. Use according to the previous claim 9, characterized in that the disease is Alzheimer's disease.
- 25          30       11. Use according to any of the previous claims 9 to 10, characterized in that the antibody or the active fragment or derivative of the antibody that specifically recognizes any of the predominant variants of the peptide A $\beta$  is obtained from a peptide selected from a group that consists of SEQ ID No 1, SEQ ID No 2, SEQ ID No 3, SEQ ID No 4, optionally shortened by elimination of the amino acid residues from the N-terminal and/or C-terminal ends, and 35        optionally lengthened by addition of the appropriate amino acid residues for protein conjugation.

12. Use according to claim 9, characterized in that said antibody or active fragment or antibody derivative is obtained by immunization of mammals or birds with a peptide selected from among the group comprised of:

- the peptide of SEQ ID No 1;
- the peptides with a sequence resulting from eliminating the residues of N-terminal and/or C-terminal amino acid of SEQ ID No 1;
- and the peptides resulting from adding any of the preceding sequences, the amino acid residues necessary for protein conjugation.

5

13. Use according to claim 9, characterized in that said antibody or active fragment or antibody derivative is obtained by immunization of mammals or birds with a peptide selected from among the group comprised of:

- the peptide of SEQ ID No 2;
- the peptides with a sequence resulting from eliminating the residues of N-terminal and/or C-terminal amino acid of SEQ ID No 2;
- and the peptides resulting from adding any of the preceding sequences, the amino acid residues necessary for protein conjugation.

10

14. Use according to claim 9, characterized in that said antibody or active fragment or antibody derivative is obtained by immunization of mammals or birds with a peptide selected from among the group comprised of:

- the peptide of SEQ ID No 3;
- the peptides with a sequence resulting from eliminating the residues of N-terminal and/or C-terminal amino acid of SEQ ID No 3;
- and the peptides resulting from adding any of the preceding sequences, the amino acid residues necessary for protein conjugation.

15

15. Use according to claim 9, characterized in that said antibody or active fragment or antibody derivative is obtained by immunization of mammals or birds with a peptide selected from among the group comprised of:

20

- the peptide of SEQ ID No 4;

25

30

- 5
- the peptides with a sequence resulting from eliminating the residues of N-terminal and/or C-terminal amino acid of SEQ ID No 4;
  - and the peptides resulting from adding any of the preceding sequences, the amino acid residues necessary for protein conjugation.